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Security Council

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Letter dated 28 October 2002 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

As the representative of the State presiding over the statutory bodies of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), I have the honour to transmit herewith the decision of the CIS Council of Heads of State on the extension of the peacekeeping operation in the conflict zone in Abkhazia, Georgia (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) S. **Lavrov**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

02-66950 (E) 311002 311002

Annex to the letter dated 28 October 2002 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Decision on the extension of the peacekeeping operation in the conflict zone in Abkhazia, Georgia

The Council of Heads of State of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS)

Has decided:

1. To extend the stay and mandate of the Collective Peacekeeping Forces in the conflict zone in Abkhazia, Georgia, to 31 December 2002 or until such time as one of the parties to the conflict calls for an end to the operation.

2. To instruct the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of Georgia and the Russian Federation, with the participation of the Headquarters for the Coordination of Military Cooperation among CIS Member States and the CIS Ad Hoc Operational Working Group for the Settlement of the Conflict in Abkhazia, Georgia, and in cooperation with the Special Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations for Georgia, to continue to work out the issues referred to in paragraph 3 of the decision of the CIS Council of Heads of State of 22 March 2002 on the stay of the Collective Peacekeeping Forces in the conflict zone in Abkhazia, Georgia.

Information on the conclusions and proposals shall be submitted to the CIS Council of Ministers for Foreign Affairs at its next meeting.

3. To instruct the CIS Council of Ministers for Foreign Affairs, taking into account these conclusions, to submit for consideration to the CIS Council of Heads of States at its next meeting proposals regarding further steps for the elaboration of additional measures for the safe return of refugees and displaced persons to the place of their former residence and regarding amendments and additions to the mandate of the Collective Peacekeeping Forces in the conflict zone in Abkhazia, Georgia.

4. To inform the United Nations Security Council of this decision of the CIS Council of Heads of State.

DONE in the Russian language, as provided in paragraph 6 of rule 20 of the Rules of Procedure of the Council of Heads of State and the Council of Heads of

Government of the Commonwealth of Independent States. The original copy shall be deposited with the CIS Executive Committee, which shall transmit a certified copy to each State that has signed this decision.

For the Republic of Armenia:
(*Signed*) R. **Kocharian**
2 August 2002

For the Azerbaijani Republic:
(*Signed*) H. **Aliyev**
3 September 2002

For the Republic of Belarus:
(*Signed*) A. **Lukashenka**
30 July 2002

For Georgia:
(*Signed*) E. **Shevardnadze**
26 July 2002

For the Republic of Kazakhstan:
(*Signed*) N. **Nazarbaev**
2 August 2002

For the Kyrgyz Republic:
(*Signed*) A. **Akayev**
13 August 2002

For the Republic of Moldova:

For the Russian Federation:
(*Signed*) V. **Putin**
2 October 2002

For the Republic of Tajikistan:
(*Signed*) E. **Rakhmonov**
2 August 2002

For Turkmenistan:

For Ukraine:

For the Republic of Uzbekistan:
(*Signed*) I. **Karimov**
26 July 2002